

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 NRC-05

XMB-02 /108 W

-----120404Z 011096 /63

R 111648Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2737

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 2332

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, IT

SUBJ: US-ITALY ENERGY WORKING GROUP (EWG): REVIEW OF NOVEMBER 12
MEETING

REFS: (A) STATE 3662; (B) 76 STATE 309352; (C) 76 ROME 18647

(D) ROME 1741

1. DURING FEBRUARY 9 REVIEW (PER REF (D), PARA 2,A) OF NOVEMBER

12 EWG MEETING WITH EMBOFF, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA)

REP MILESI-FERRETTI RAISED FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) REPROCESSING TECHNOLOGY: MILESI REFERRED TO THE

ARGUMENTS ADVANCED BY MFA-MIGLIUOLO AND CNEN-VENDITTI THAT

AN INDEPENDENT ITALIAN ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING CAPABILITY

WAS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE GOI ENERGY PROGRAM AND TO US

DEL'S STATEMENT THAT GOI ENERGY PROGRAM WAS COMPATIBLE WITH

US POLICY SET OUT IN (THEN-PRESIDENT) FORD'S STATEMENT OF

OCTOBER 28. EMBOFF CLARIFIED THAT USG SAW NO INCOMPATIBILITY

BETWEEN OBJECTIVES OF GOI ENERGY PROGRAM (THAT IS, TO DEVELOP

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCE REDUCING ITALIAN DEPENDENCE ON

IMPORTED PETROLEUM) AND PRINCIPLES ENUNCIATED IN OCTOBER 28

STATEMENT; HOWEVER, USG UNABLE TO ACCEPT NEED FOR INDEPENDENT

ITALIAN REPROCESSING CAPACITY. ON THIS BASIS, LANGUAGE AS FOLLOWS

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IS SUGGESTED FOR INSERTION IN PARA 2 A (REF B) FOLLOWING WORDS

"...OBJECTIVES IN THE PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT:"

(BEGIN TEXT) DURING THE MEETING, THE ITALIAN DELEGATION

EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING, FOR THE REALIZATION

OF THE ITALIAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM, AN INDEPENDENT ITALIAN

CAPABILITY IN THE URANIUM ENRICHMENT AND FUEL REPROCESSING

SECTOR; PARTICULARLY, IN VIEW OF ITALY'S PROGRAM OF FAST-

BREEDER REACTORS. US DELEGATION TOOK NOTE OF THE POSITION OF THE ITALIAN DELEGATION, AND EMPHASIZED THAT THERE WAS NO INCOMPATIBILITY BETWEEN THE STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES ENUNCIATED BY PRESIDENT FORD AND THE OVERALL OBJECTIVES OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ENCOMPASSED IN THE ITALIAN NUCLEAR ENERGY PLAN. THE US DELEGATION AGREED THAT THE ITALIAN DELEGATION'S ANALYSIS OF POSSIBLE BOTTLENECKS--ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING--WAS GOOD, BUT IT WAS UNABLE TO SHARE THE ITALIAN DELEGATION'S IDEAS REGARDING REPROCESSING CAPABILITY. (END TEXT)

(B) WASTE MANAGEMENT: MILESI STATED THAT CNEN'S NASCHI HAD REQUESTED A FOLLOWED-UP VISIT IN THE WASTE MANAGEMENT AREA. EMBOFF REGRETTED OMISSION FROM PROGRESS REPORT AND INDICATED THAT USG WAS WILLING TO CONSIDER GOI PROPOSAL IN THIS AREA. EMBASSY SUGGESTS ADDITION OF PARAGRAPH TO PARA (B) (REFTEL AS FOLLOWS:

(BEGIN TEXT) THE USG AWAITS WITH INTEREST PROPOSALS FROM THE GOI FOR FURTHER CONTACTS IN AREA OF PHYSICAL SECURITY OF NUCLEAR FACILITIES. (END TEXT)

(C) ENRICHMENT AND NURE: MILESI SAID THAT PROGRESS REPORT SHOULD HAVE INDICATED GOI POSITIONS IN GREATER DETAIL, PARTICULARLY GOI UNHAPPINESS WITH USG FORTHCOMINGNESS. EMBOFF SUGGESTED THAT BLOW-BY-BLOW WAS INAPPROPRIATE IN DOCUMENT DESIGNED TO PROVIDE BASIS THAT GOI WISHED TO INCLUDE.

MILESI DECLINED TO PROPOSE ALTERNATED LANGUAGE AT THIS TIME.

(D) FINANCIAL: MILESI INDICATED THAT GOI WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO SEE A REFERENCE TO AMOUNT IN DISCUSSION WITH USG, I.E. USDOL 3.5 BILLION. NO SPECIFIC LANGUAGE WAS PROPOSED.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE RE
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INSERTION LANGUAGE CONTAINED (1)(A-B) ABOVE.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY ALSO PASSED MILESI PAPER (BEING POUCHED EB/ORF/FSE) DETAILING NEXT STEPS FORESEEN IN EWG FORMAT. MILESI INDICATED THAT GOI WOULD BEGIN TO FOCUS ON THESE IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE.BEAUDRY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME02332
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770050-0622
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770249/aaaabrnc.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 3662, 76 STATE 309352, 76 ROME 18647, 77 ROME 1741
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3338790
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-ITALY ENERGY WORKING GROUP (EWG): REVIEW OF NOVEMBER 12 MEETING
TAGS: ENRG, OCON, IT, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9e1c6ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009